

“God’s Goodness in Turmoil” – Psalm 27:13-14 – November 13th, 2016

- After much prayer and seeking the Lord I was clearly directed to speak very candidly, openly, and honestly about three matters.
 - The turmoil in this country nationally, turmoil in the Calvary Chapel movement corporately, and turmoil in my family personally.
 - I’m hoping you will kindly allow me to share with you the hope and encouragement God had ministered to me this last week.
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- I’ll begin with what was arguably a miracle when Donald Trump prevailed over Hillary Clinton in Tuesday’s presidential election.
 - While experts stumbled and bumbled in their attempts to explain the shock of what happened, Christians knew what happened.
 - Christians all over the world prayed and the Christians in America voted! According to one report, it was the largest in decades.
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- At the risk of raining on the parade, it’s incumbent upon me to say, by way of a reminder that our hope is not in Donald Trump.
 - We’ve been down this road before, thinking we elected a pro-Christian, pro-Israel, pro-life president, only to find it’s to no avail.
 - The truth of the matter is, this world is not our home nor is this world or for that matter this nation and president our hope either.
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- This nation is more divided than it’s ever been in recent memory, and it’s evidenced by what some believe are paid protestors.
 - I would suggest the jury is out on how all this will work out but it’s important to remember our battle isn’t against flesh and blood.
 - One of Satan’s strategies is to get us fighting a spiritual battle with carnal weapons, because he knows he has but a short time.
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- Not only is Satan bringing turmoil into this nation so too he’s bringing turmoil into the body of Christ, specifically Calvary Chapel.
 - Since Pastor Chuck went home to be with the Lord there has been a degree of ambiguity concerning the movement as a whole.
 - Sadly, there are those who are quick to jump on the gossip bandwagon, which again plays right into the hands of the enemy.
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- This Tuesday, Pastor Bill Stonebraker is hosting a time of worship, fellowship, and prayer for all the Calvary Chapel pastors.
 - As I’ve mentioned in the past, I have no intention of abandoning the expositional teaching of God’s Word and Bible prophecy.
 - I’m resolute in my commitment to continue teaching the whole counsel of God and the beating of the Bible prophecy drum.
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- This brings me to the turmoil in my family personally. As many of you now know, we’ve had problems with our 18-year old son.
 - On Friday, I went on Face Book and did a live video asking for prayer for my son Elias, who was having seizures in California.
 - Thousands of people prayed and within a short period of time he was taken to the airport only to have a seizure on the plane.
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- I cannot even begin to tell you how encouraging the outpouring of support was, and I have to confess that I was very surprised.
 - This because many of you have shared with me about your struggles with your adult children, and it’s been a tremendous help.
 - As such, some of the local pastors will be filling in for me so I can take some much-needed time in order to minister to my son.
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- Perhaps you’ll indulge me for the reminder of our time as I share what God has impressed upon me to do in this time of turmoil.
 - Please know that by virtue of the seriousness of the times we’re in, I in no way wish to offer Christian cliché’s or canned quotes.
 - Rather, I will speak about the power of prayer and God’s Word, without which, the best and strongest among us will lose heart.

1. Wait on the Lord

Psalm 27:13–14 (NKJV) — 13 I would have lost heart, unless I had believed That I would see the goodness of the LORD In the land of the living. 14 Wait on the LORD; Be of good courage, And He shall strengthen your heart; Wait, I say, on the LORD!

Genesis 50:20 (NKJV) — 20 But as for you, you meant evil against me; but God meant it for good, in order to bring it about as it is this day, to save many people alive.

2. Trust in the Lord

Proverbs 3:5–6 (NKJV) — 5 Trust in the LORD with all your heart, And lean not on your own understanding; 6 In all your ways acknowledge Him, And He shall direct your paths.

3. Pray to the Lord

James 5:13–18 (NKJV) — 13 Is anyone among you suffering? Let him pray. Is anyone cheerful? Let him sing psalms. 14 Is anyone among you sick? Let him call for the elders of the church, and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord. 15 And the prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise him up. And if he has committed sins, he will be forgiven. 16 Confess your trespasses to one another, and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The effective, fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much. 17 Elijah was a man with a nature like ours, and he prayed earnestly that it would not rain; and it did not rain on the land for three years and six months. 18 And he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain, and the earth produced its fruit.

4. Call upon the Lord

- If there was ever a time for genuine repentance and turning to Jesus Christ, it is now. Jesus is the way, the truth, and the life.

John 14:6 (NKJV) — 6 Jesus said to him, “I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.

Romans 10:13 (NKJV) — 13 For “whoever calls on the name of the LORD shall be saved.”